

Health News Release

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State disciplines health care providers

OLYMPIA -- The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against the following health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 80 health care professions (e.g., dentists, nurses, counselors). Information about disciplinary action taken against medical doctors and physician assistants can be found on the Washington Medical Commission (WMC) website. Questions about WMC disciplinary actions can be sent to media@wmc.wa.gov.

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Look up a health care provider license" in the "How Do I?" section of the Department of Health website (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Benton County

In September 2021 the Board of Psychology charged psychologist **Richard M. Ostrom** (PY00002822) with unprofessional conduct. Ostrom was allegedly observed to be nude at his office location on two separate occasions.

Clark County

In September 2021 the Nursing Commission granted the termination of oversight and monitoring of registered nurse **Shannon Leigh LaTendresse** (RN60321931).

Cowlitz County

In September 2021 the secretary of health granted the termination of probation of massage therapist **Amanda Renee Hart** (MA00023855).

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King County

In September 2021 the Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery Board amended a statement of charges against osteopathic physician **Stephen Michael O'Connell** (OP60194659). The amendment adds an allegation that O'Connell engaged in aggressive behavior towards a substance abuse monitoring employee after a required monitoring test was determined invalid.

In September 2021 the secretary of health entered an agreement with assistant behavior analyst **Erin Elizabeth Damitio** (AB61182734) where Damitio was granted an assistant behavior analyst license with the condition that she comply with a substance use monitoring program.

In September 2021 the Dental Commission granted the termination of conditions of dentist **Kuzi S. Hsue** (DE00006736).

Mason County

In September 2021 the secretary of health reinstated the license of registered nursing assistant **Adriane A. Eichhorn** (NA60794804) upon completion of the terms and conditions of a substance abuse monitoring program.

Pierce County

In September 2021 the Home Care Aid Program charged certified home care aid **Amanda Jeanne Baugh** (HM60786785) with being unable to practice with reasonable skill and safety due to a mental or physical condition.

In September 2021 the Chiropractic Commission entered an agreement with chiropractor **Thomas Anthony Velickoff** (CH00034710) and granted his request for reinstatement and placed his license on probation for three years. Velickoff must comply with the terms and conditions of the agreement and have a monitor present during treatment of all patients.

In September 2021 the Psychology Board modified an agreed order against psychologist **Philip J. Frank** (PY00000510) allowing Frank an additional six months to pay the fine required in the order.

In September 2021 the Pharmacy Commission charged pharmacist **Josie Ann Fyhn-Willey** (VA60242116, VB60205826) with unprofessional conduct. Fyhn-Willey allegedly failed to participate in a required substance abuse monitoring program.

Skagit County

In September 2021 the Medical Assistant Program charged certified medical assistant **Sheng Yi Tan** (CM60590574) with unprofessional conduct. Tan allegedly accessed multiple patient's records and sent them sexually suggestive messages and photographs from a texting app. Tan is charged with computer trespass, 2nd degree extortion, and six counts of cyberstalking in Skagit County Superior Court.

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Snohomish County

In September 2021 the secretary of health granted **Sarah Marie Nichols** (NA61136314) a registered nursing assistant credential and required her to comply with a substance use monitoring program.

Spokane County

In October 2021 the secretary of health indefinitely suspended the license of registered nursing assistant **Larry Gene Howard** (NA60852767) for failure to report a prior conviction of driving under the influence in 2007. The secretary also entered an agreement with Howard and placed his agency-affiliated counselor and substance use disorder professional licenses (CG60854071, CP60506174) on probation with the condition he participates in a substance use monitoring program, pay a fine of \$1,000, and complete 8 hours of law and ethics training within six months.

Yakima County

In September 2021 the secretary of health granted the termination of conditions of substance use disorder professional **Chad Warren Morris** (CP61049398).

In September 2021 the Radiologic Technologist Program charged radiologic technologist **Suzzanne Kristine Krueger** (RT60599532) with unprofessional conduct. Krueger was allegedly intoxicated while working.

Whatcom County

In September 2021 the Dental Commission granted the termination of conditions of dentist **Faith R. Bult** (DE00009293).

Note to Editors: Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

The <u>DOH website</u> is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. <u>Find us on Facebook</u> and follow us on Twitter. Sign up for the DOH blog, Public Health Connection.

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